

T-134  
White Marsh Farm  
Trappe vicinity  
Private

c. 1785, c. 1850, c. 1870

Principally known as the White Marsh farm for the past two-hundred years, this Barber Road property is defined architecturally by a group of deteriorated brick and frame structures. The two-story brick and frame dwelling was assembled in three distinct phases beginning around 1785 with the construction of a story-and-a-half, hall/parlor plan, gambrel-roofed house of Flemish and common bond brick. Around 1850, the gambrel roofed dwelling was modified significantly with the raising walls to a full two story height and the cornices were built in corbelled brickwork. At the same time the interior was refitted with modest mid nineteenth-century finishes. Approximately twenty years later a two-story, three-bay frame service wing was built against the east gable end, replacing an earlier kitchen wing with a much steeper roof pitch.

Construction of the Flemish bond brick gambrel roofed house occurred during the ownership of Matthew Lewis Jenkins, whose family maintained occupancy until 1817. The mid nineteenth century alterations were accomplished during the tenure of John Clark, a highly successful merchant who owned many properties in Trappe as well as the surrounding district. Following John Clark's transfer of the property to Robert R. Butler in 1856, the house was improved further with the addition of the new service wing. Robert R. Butler and his wife Mary maintained ownership of the farm until 1918. For the balance of the twentieth century the property was held by the Graham and inter-related Jeffers families.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of

### Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-134

#### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic White Marsh Farm  
other Top Mark Farm, Powick's Ridge, Mt. Hebron

#### 2. Location

street and number North side of Barber Road ☐ not for publication  
city, town Trappe ☒ vicinity  
county Talbot

#### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name White Marsh Farm One, LLC  
street and number 28466 Waterview Drive telephone 410-770-3666  
city, town Easton state Maryland zip code 21601

#### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 1022 folio 659  
city, town Easton tax map 59 tax parcel 4 tax ID number 118142

#### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>5</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>5</u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	Total
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

White Marsh farm, also known as Top Mark farm, is located on the north side of Barber Road approximately a mile east of the town of Trappe, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, two-part brick and frame farmhouse stands at the end of a dirt lane on the crest of a hill, and it is accompanied by four frame outbuildings. The two-story farmhouse, which has reached an advanced state of deterioration, faces south with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in three distinct periods of construction, the brick and frame farmhouse was begun during the fourth quarter of the eighteenth century (c. 1785-90) as a hall/parlor plan dwelling covered by a gambrel roof. Built of Flemish and common bond walls with a plain watertable, the two-room plan house was erected with a fully excavated cellar. The eighteenth-century house was substantially modified around 1850-60 with a rebuilding of the roof and a general reworking of the interior. The gambrel roof was replaced with a low pitched gable roof, and the hall/parlor plan was modified to a center hall/single pile disposition. Interior woodwork finishes were renewed with modest examples of mid nineteenth-century finishes. The last stage of construction dates around 1870-80 with the construction of a two-story frame service wing on the east gable end.

The south (main) elevation of the brick house is laid in Flemish bond with a carefully struck grapevine joint. A watertable, defined by a single step ledge, is pierced by a pair of segmental arched cellar window openings. A slightly off-center doorway survives with a second quarter of the nineteenth-century half-round door architrave, however the door itself no longer survives. Single window openings missing their sash pierce the wall surfaces to each side. Above the first story window openings the brickwork shifts to erratic five- to seven-course common bond with a corbelled brick cornice stretching across the full front. The medium sloped wood shingle gable roof has partially collapsed.

The west gable end is laid in three-course common bond with a grapevine joint up to the level of the former gambrel roof, the outline of which is partially discernable on this end. The brickwork above is laid in common bond, and the gable end is finished flush with a plain bargeboard. An exterior common bond brick stack with corbelled shoulders, dating from the second or perhaps third period of construction, rises against the gable end.

The north wall has collapsed partly and only remnants of the foundation wall and corners remains. The remaining eighteenth-century brick wall is laid in erratic English and three-course common bond above a stepped watertable. A single segmental arched cellar window opening remains on the west side of the foundation wall.

The east gable end of the main block is covered largely by the two-story, three-bay by one room frame service wing erected around 1870-80 as a replacement of a previous wing of smaller dimensions. The ghost of a former, steeply pitched gable roof is evident on the brick wall surface above the second floor joists. The frame service wing is supported on brick piers and is covered with plain weatherboards. An exterior brick stack rises against the east gable end. The medium pitched gable roof, covered with wood shingles, has partially collapsed.

The interior of the brick house is very plain with little in the way of decorative woodwork remaining. A mid nineteenth-century staircase remains in place, however the newel posts, balusters and handrails are missing. A remnant of a turned newel post remains at the mid-level landing. Plain door surrounds are embellished simply with a beaded inner edge. The male part of lift-off hinges remain in place, however most doors are missing as well. There is one mid nineteenth-century four-panel door off its hinges.

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The east first floor room is dominated by a projecting chimney stack, which has segmental arched firebox openings on the first and second floors. The first floor firebox was made smaller during the nineteenth century. Where plaster has fallen from the stack, English bond coursing is evident on the first story portion. The interior joist systems and flooring have collapsed into the cellar. Directly north of the chimney stack are mid nineteenth-century closets retaining plain door surrounds. Sawn lath is exposed where the plaster has deteriorated. To the south of the chimney stack is a side door entrance into the east end wing. This door opening retains a mortise-and-tenon surround embellished with a slight ovolo molding on its inner edge. This door surround is the only eighteenth-century trim surviving intact inside the house.

The west room is a plain space with a collapsed floor as well. The plaster covering on the brickwork has deteriorated for the most part. Brickwork evidence in this room indicates that the interior stack was taken down during the nineteenth century and replaced with the current exterior stack. No mantel or interior woodwork trim survives in this room.

The second floor finishes are equally plain. A steeply pitched stair, enclosed with vertical boards, provides access to the attic. At the head of the second floor hall there is a small chamber or box room. The second story flooring systems have collapsed.

The attic is finished with lath and plaster. The plaster lath is sawn and is fastened with cut nails.

The interior of the frame service wing is divided into three spaces with a narrow transverse passage running from the east end door to the largest space, evidently the kitchen. Behind the hall is a small storage room or pantry. The interior finishes of the kitchen wing date from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, probably to the 1870s. A plain Greek Revival mantel survives in the kitchen, and it features plain pilasters, a plain frieze and a thick mantel shelf. Located between the kitchen room and the pantry is a narrow staircase that provides access to two upstairs chambers. Shallow profile four-panel doors dating from the late nineteenth century remain on the second floor. Due to the partially collapsed condition of the service wing roof, the gable end of the eighteenth-century house is exposed, thereby revealing the roofline ghost of a former service wing with a steep roof pitch. Curiously, there is a series of narrow  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick boards approximately 8" long imbedded in the mortar joints in line with the former roof pitch. The original purpose of these thin boards set in the mortar joint is not clear at present.

Joining the house on the site is a group of four deteriorated frame outbuildings. Southeast of the house is a single-story, three-part frame barn, which exists in an advanced state of deterioration. The gable-roofed main block retains some mid nineteenth-century material, including hand-hewn framing members as well as some wide dimensioned weatherboarding fastened with mature cut nails under the east end shed roofed addition. The frame of the gable roof has been rebuilt and incorporates reused framing elements with empty mortises. The main block extends to the west with a shorter single-story gable roofed frame stable addition. An early twentieth-century frame office stands due south of the main house, and it is supported on a poured concrete foundation, and it is sheathed with vertical board siding. The frame structure has a gable-front orientation. The south (main) wall is pierced by an off-center door opening fitted with a late nineteenth-century four-panel door. An adjacent window opening has lost its fixed sash. Piercing the gable end is a rectangular

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vent. Small windows pierce the east and west side walls, and the rear (north) wall is blind. The interior is fitted with narrow beaded board walls and ceiling. Standing off the northeast corner of the main house is another gable-front frame outbuilding dating to the early twentieth century as well. Assembled with lightly dimensioned framing members and wire nails, the gable-roofed outbuilding was used as a work shop. The structure is sheathed with vertical board siding. The final structure is a single-story, gable-front garage that stands northwest of the main block. The rectangular frame garage, supported on a brick pier foundation, has a double-door opening in its south (main) elevation. The doors are missing. Window openings with deteriorated six-over-six sash pierce the side walls, and the north (rear) wall is blind.



## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Historically known as the White Marsh farm for the past two-hundred years,<sup>1</sup> this Barber Road property is defined architecturally by a group of deteriorated brick and frame structures. The farm dwelling, assembled in three distinct phases beginning around 1785 and modified significantly during the mid to late nineteenth century, has reached an advanced stage of deterioration. It is basically a ruin with a collapsed rear wall and roof and failed first and second story flooring systems. The east end frame wing has reached an equally poor state with rotten flooring systems and roof. As a result of its current condition, the house does not qualify for recognition by the National Register of Historic Places.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The land record history of this Trappe vicinity farm involves a complicated series of transactions between the Jenkins, Stevens, and Clark families during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Even though the complex nature of the land transactions has yet to be fully sorted, the eighteenth-century gambrel roofed brick house stands on a tract of land known as "Powick's Ridge," property that was occupied by the Jenkins family during the mid to late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. At the time of the time of the 1783 Federal tax, planter Matthew Lewis Jenkins was assessed for

*P[ar]t Powick's Ridge, 121 acres, thin sandy soil, 1 small framed dwelling house, 1 Log'd Meat House, 1 Log'd Corn House, mostly in very bad repair<sup>2</sup>*

The presence of a frame house rather than a brick dwelling on the property indicates the extant gambrel-roofed hall/parlor dwelling was erected following the 1783 tax. In February 1790 Matthew Lewis Jenkins transferred ownership of his Trappe vicinity plantation to planter Joseph Ridgeway for the sum of L300,<sup>3</sup> and the

<sup>1</sup> The first mention of the name "White Marsh" as related to this property surfaces in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment in the Particular List of Dwelling Houses for taxable Mary Jenkins.

<sup>2</sup> 1783 Tax Assessment, Talbot County, Bolingbroke Hundred, Matthew Lewis Jenkins, Talbot County Free Library.

<sup>3</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 24/13, 16 February 1790.

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conveyance describes the property as "Powick's Ridge and Howes Mannor," .... "whereon he the said Matthew Lewis Jenkins now lives which lies towards and nearest the place called the Trappe." In essence Matthew Jenkins leveraged the value of his plantation through a modern-day lien or mortgage type of transaction. He had executed a similar conveyance at the time of the American Revolution with merchant William Stevens for the sum of L514.12.6.<sup>4</sup> Matthew Lewis Jenkins and his family continued to reside on the plantation and towards the end of his life he financed the construction of the Flemish bond brick, gambrel-roofed dwelling, presumably for the well being of his family due to the poor repair of the plantation's improvements. Matthew Lewis Jenkins died intestate.

By the time of the 1798 Federal tax assessment, Mary Jenkins "of White Marsh" is listed as the owner and occupant of the Powick's Ridge plantation, which was improved with

*1 Dwelling House, 1 story Brick 36 by 18, 4 windows 50 by 24 Ins Each, 6 Dorm[an]t 40 by 24, 300 dollars; 1 Kitchen, Log'd 14 by 12, 6 Dollrs; Milk Ho[fuse] 6 by 4; 1 Fowl House, Log 14 by 12; 1 Old Kitchen 20 by 16 at the old orchard*

The house and its lot was appraised at \$350. Her assessment itemized 237 acres of Powick's Ridge, and the improvements, which included

*1 old Corn Ho[fuse] Log'd 14 by 7, 6 Dollrs; 1 old Tobacco House 30 by 30, 20 Dollrs; 1 Granary 16 by 14, 11 Dollrs 50 cents; Residue of said Mr. Jenkins Land situate near Trapp at Powick's Ridge, 237 acres at 3 Dollars per...<sup>5</sup>*

The 1798 tax assessment identified also four slaves, three of whom were between the ages of 12 and 50.<sup>6</sup>

Mary Jenkins retained residency on the Powick's Ridge tract known as White Marsh until her death in 1817, although the lien or mortgage had been transferred through Joseph Ridgeway's 1795 will to his son William Clark Ridgeway, and then in 1811 to Easton merchant William Jenkins.<sup>7</sup> Mary Jenkins stipulated in her will that her "friend" William Jenkins would be in control of her plantation until it yielded the two thousand dollars that were stipulated in her bequests.<sup>8</sup> Merchant William Jenkins bequeathed ownership of Powick's Ridge, which he had resurveyed as "Mt. Hebron," to his son Edward Jenkins through the vehicle of his will, proved in 1829.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 20/532, 16 May 1776. The deed calls out the names "Powick's Ridge" and "Howes Mannor"..... "situate lying and being in the county aforesaid and now in the possession of the said Matthew Lewis Jenkins."

<sup>5</sup> 1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Talbot County, Bolingbroke Hundred, Dwelling House and Lands Assessment for Mary Jenkins of White Marsh. The 1798 tax is the first mention of the name "White Marsh."

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 34/675, 6 July 1811.

<sup>8</sup> Talbot County Will Book, JP 7/384, Last Will and Testament of Mary Jenkins, proved 22 August 1817.

<sup>9</sup> Talbot County Will Book, JP 8/377, proved 10 February 1829.

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In 1844 Edward Jenkins sold to Trappe merchant John Clark (1791-1872) the Jenkins land known as "Mt. Hebron" or "Powick's Ridge" for the sum of \$750.<sup>10</sup> A native of Delaware, John Clark married Talbot Countian Sarah Stevens on December 2, 1820.<sup>11</sup> John Clark assumed a prominent role in the commercial life of Trappe during the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century. Shortly before his marriage to Sarah Stevens he purchased the Stevens' tanyard in Trappe for \$2,700.<sup>12</sup> In the years that followed, John Clark amassed a tremendous estate for the time. Just prior to his death in 1872 he was recorded in the 1870 census with real estate and personal property worth \$85,000.<sup>13</sup> He resided in his son's house, a large mansard-roofed brick dwelling on West Maple Street in Trappe, a structure that remains to this day.

At the time of the 1850 United States census John Clark is listed as a 55-year old merchant with his wife Sarah and 15-year old son, Isaiah.<sup>14</sup> Although it is uncertain whether John Clark and his family ever occupied the White Marsh farm as a country residence, the mid nineteenth-century alteration of the gambrel-roofed dwelling to a gable roofed form was accomplished most likely under his tenure, which lasted until 1856 when the farm was sold to Robert R. Butler.<sup>15</sup> Robert R. Butler and his family occupied the White Marsh farm, and he is designated at this location on the 1858 Dilworth map of Talbot County.<sup>16</sup> Twelve years after the publication of the Dilworth map, R. R. Butler was enumerated in the 1870 United States census as a reasonably well-off farmer with real estate and personal property totaling \$10,330. He is grouped with his wife Mary F. Butler, 34; 20-year old domestic Delia Stanley, 15-year old John James, and Walter Hopkins, a 10-year old black farm laborer.<sup>17</sup> During the Butler years of ownership, which lasted until 1911, the two-story, three-bay frame service wing was built, which replaced a much older service wing.

In May 1911 Robert R. and Mary F. Butler transferred ownership of the White Marsh farm to Alexander B. Graham for \$9,000.<sup>18</sup> The farm remained in Graham and inter-related Jeffers family ownership until the recent transfer to the White Marsh Farm One LLC.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 58/194, 18 May 1844.

<sup>11</sup> Stevens Family Genealogy file, Maryland Room, Talbot County Free Library.

<sup>12</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 42/605, 7 October 1820.

<sup>13</sup> *Eighth Census of the United States*, 1870, Talbot County Population Schedule, transcribed by Helen E. Seymour.

<sup>14</sup> *Seventh Census of the United States*, 1850, Talbot County Population Schedule, transcribed by Helen E. Seymour.

<sup>15</sup> Talbot County Land Record, STH 67/262, 2 September 1856.

<sup>16</sup> William H. Dilworth, Map of Talbot County, Maryland with Farm Limits, 1858, Limited facsimile reproduction by the Talbot County Free Library.

<sup>17</sup> Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Population Schedule for Talbot County, transcribed by Helen E. Seymour.

<sup>18</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 159/270, 6 May 1911.

<sup>19</sup> Talbot County Land Record, 1022/659, 24 September 2001.



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White Marsh Farm (Top Mark Farm)  
Trappe vicinity, Talbot County, Maryland  
Chain of title  
Map 59, Parcel 4

1022/659

Eleanor J. Simonoff, Christine H. Jeffers, and Elizabeth J. Leichner

to

9/24/2001

White Marsh Farm One, LLC

654/821

Jeffers Farms, Inc.

to

7/19/1988

Hester G. Jeffers (37.3% interest), Eleanor J. Simonoff (20.9% interest),  
Elizabeth J. Leichner (20.9% interest), Christine H. Jeffers (20.9% int.)

Parcel One: "White Marsh containing 150 acres which is described in a  
deed from Robert R. Butler and Mary F. Butler to Alexander B. Graham,  
159/270, 6 May 1911

Parcel Two: Wood lot lying on the northernmost portion of the farm,  
called and known as the Merrick farm, containing 5 acres  
...being the same property that was conveyed unto the said Jeffers Farms  
by Hester Graham Jeffers, 569/779, 17 December 1982

Parcel One: 150 acres conveyed unto Alexander B. Graham and Hester  
Graham Jeffers by William Reddie and Jane S. Reddie, 31 January 1959,  
JTB 352/330, the said Alexander B. Graham having predeceased the said  
Hester Graham Jeffers....

Parcel Two: 5-acre woodlot from Elsie W. Kemp, Mary Louise Reisky  
DeDubnic and Vladmir Reisky deDubnic to the said Alexander B. Graham  
and Hester Graham Jeffers, JTB 357/261, 27 August 1959

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352/330

William Reddie and Jane S. Reddie

to

1/31/1959

Alexander B. Graham and Hester Graham Jeffers

"White Marsh" 150 acres

352/328

Alexander B. Graham, widower

to

1/31/1959

William Reddie

159/270

Robert R. Butler and Mary F. Butler

to

5/6/1911

Alexander B. Graham

"White Marsh" \$9,000

....Also all and singular those two small parcels of land adjoining the above tract of land as described and which now form a part of same, one containig  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre and which was conveyed to the said Robert R. Butler by deed from Isaac W. Jump and wife, TH 106/358, 6 August 1888

1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson Atlas, Trappe District

R. R. Butler, designated at house site, listed on patron list with 295 acres, Queen Anne's County nativity

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1870 United States Census, Talbot County, Population Schedule

Robert R. Butler, farmer, Value of Real Estate, \$6,000; Value of Personal property, \$4330; Mary F. Butler, 34; Delia Stanley, 20-year old domestic; John James, 15; Walter Hopkins, 10-year old black farm laborer.

1858 Dilworth Map of Talbot County, R. R. Butler is designated at location of the Barber Road house.

STH 67/262

John Clark and Sarah Stevens Clark

to

9/2/1856

Robert R. Butler

\$1800 "White Marsh Farm" ...all that portion or part of farm called and known as the White Marsh farm and all the woods and all the buildings as they are on said farm, as well as widow's dower, at her death. Beginning for the same at a stone near to the edge of the county road leading from Trappe to Bolingbrook (sic) and Banberry (sic) and running with the division line between said White Marsh farm and the farm where William P. Reed lives until it strikes the land of Phil. Mullikin called Gravelly Ridge...

1870 United States Census, Talbot County, Population Schedule

Household #240, Trappe

Isaac D. Clark, 34, Merchant, Value of Real Estate, \$10,000; Value of Personal property, \$70,000; Jane T. Clark, 35; Sallie Stevens Clark, 12; May Clark, 6; John M., 13, Iowa origin; John Clark, 75, retired merchant, Value of Real Estate, \$15,000, Value of Personal property, \$70,000; Delaware origin; Emily S. Stevens, 30 school teacher, Value of Personal Property, \$350, Pennsylvania origin; Thomas Reddie, 19, clerk; Clayton Wright, 20, farm laborer; Francis Thomas, 14-year old black, farm laborer; Samuel, 7-year old black, George, 5-year old black, Mary E., 2-year old black; Amanda 36-year old black.

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1850 United States Census, Talbot County, Population Schedule

Household #655                      John Clark, 55, merchant, born in Delaware  
   Sarah Clark, 56, born in Talbot County  
   Isaiah Clark, 15, School

John Clark married Sarah Stevens on 2 December 1820. The ceremony was officiated by Reverend Joseph Scull

Sarah Stevens, wife of John Clark, born 19 February 1793[5], died 17 August 1866

John Clark was born 3 September 1791 and died 13 November 1872

Talbot County  
Land Record  
58/194

Edward Jenkins

to

5/18/1844

John Clark

\$750.... "Mt. Hebron" or "Powick's Ridge" being a part of that tract of Land devised to the said Edward Jenkins by his father William Jenkins late of the county aforesaid deceased....Beginning for the said part of a Tract....at a stone setting in the ground at the corner of a fence and on the West side of a Road, it being also a bounder of Greenbury Martins' Land, thence running N 69 degrees, W 72 perches to the county road leading from the Trappe to Bolingbroke School-house, thence running with the said Road N 68 degrees W 73 ¼ perches to the corner of a fence thence running with the said fence and the Land of John Woolford, John W. Baker, John F. Mullikin, and Francis Baker N 41 ¼ degrees E 68 perches to an Oak tree at the gate and to the Land of Doct. Samuel T. Kemp, thence with the said Kemp's Land S 60 ¼ degrees E ½ perch thence N 41 ¼ degrees E 43 ¾ perches to Margaret Robertson's Land, thence with that Land S 69 ¼ degrees 113 perches, thence S 8 degrees W 5 perches to James W. Abbott's Land, thence S 20 degrees W 64 perches to the aforesaid county road, thence with it S 74 ¼ degrees E 29 perches to a fence thence with that fence S 12 degrees W 118 ½ perches thence N 37 degrees W 58 perches to a fence thence with that fence to the beginning containing 115 acres one rood and twenty-eight perches of Land more or less....

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Talbot County  
Will Book  
JP 8/377

Last Will and Testament of William Jenkins of Easton

to

Written  
1/18/1823  
Proved  
2/10/1829

Item, I give and devise unto my son **Edward Jenkins**, his heirs and assigns for ever all the lands and tenements with the improvements and appurtenances to the same belonging lying in the county aforesaid, which I purchased from a certain William Clark Ridgeway (except such part thereof as lies on the west side of the public road leading from Easton aforesaid to the ferry aforesaid;) also all that tract of land patented to me, called Mount Hebrow (sic), with improvements & appurtenances to the same belonging, lying in the county aforesaid (except such part thereof as has been sold by me to one Enoch Morgan) also all my right, title, interest and estate in and to a tract of land called Jenkin's Ramble, lying in the said county, and also the houses & lot of land, near to or adjoining the village called The Trappe, in the county aforesaid, wherein and whereon Mrs. A. Sherwood now resides....

Talbot County  
Land Record  
42/605

John Stevens, Jr. (Executor of John Stevens, dec'd)

to

10/7/1820

John Clark

...the tanyard & the aforesaid land attached to it...

\$2,700 "Alexander's Choice," part of another tract called "Irish Freshes,"  
part of another tract called "Kingsdale"



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52/11 John McMahan, farmer

to

5/12/1835 John Clark, merchant

"White Phillips" 82 acres (no mention of recognizable landmarks in boundary description)

42/607 Elizabeth Stevens

to, son-in-law

10/7/1820 John Clark

widow's dower in tanyard property

Talbot County  
Will Book  
JP 7/494

Last Will and Testament of John Stevens

to

Written  
12/6/1819  
Proved  
4/5/1820

Bequests to son, John  
daughters, Sarah Stevens, Mary Stevens, Eliza Stevens,  
Julia Ann Stevens, Ann Matilda Stevens

-Remainder of personal estate to be sold and money raised to be divided among daughters...

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. T-134

Name White Marsh Farm  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 9

Talbot County  
Will Book  
JP 7/384

Last Will and Testament of Mary Jenkins

to, grandson

Written  
9/14/1816  
Proved  
8/22/1817

Jenkins Abbott, "my farm or plantation called White Marsh" situate lying and being in Talbot County adjoining the land of James Saunders subject nevertheless to the payment in the manner herein after mentioned of the sum of two thousand dollars current money, and it is my will & desire that in case my said grandson, Jenkins Abbott should die without heirs of his body lawfully begotten my grandson James White Abbott shall have the said farm or plantation ....and it is my will and desire that my said farm or plantation shall be rented out or cultivated by my friend William Jenkins until the sum of two thousand dollars be secured therefrom & paid according to my will above expressed; and for this purpose I do expressly nominate & appoint the said William Jenkins, Trustee, and I do authorize & empower him to take possession of my said farm or plantation & either cause it to be cultivated or rented out on the most advantageous terms for the purpose of raising the said sum of two thousand dollars

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Talbot County, Bolingbroke Hundred, Dwelling Houses

Occupant and Owner/ "Mary Jenkins of White Marsh" Powick's Ridge Value \$350

1 Dwelling House, 1 story Brick 36 by 18, 4 windows 50 by 24 Ins Each;  
6 Dorm[an]t 40 by 24, 300 Dollars, 1 Kitchen Log'd, 14 by 12, 6 Dollars;  
Milk Ho[use] 6 by 4, 1 Fowl House Log 14 by 12, 1 Old Kitchen 20 by 16  
at the old orchard

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. T-134

Name White Marsh Farm  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 10

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1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Talbot County, Bolingbroke Hundred, Land Assessment

Occupant and Owner/ Mary Jenkins Powick's Ridge 237 acres Value \$750

1 old Corn Ho[use] Log'd 14 by 7, 6 Dollars, 1 old Tobacco House 30 by 30, 20 Dollars, 1 granary 16 by 14, 11 Dollars 50 cents; Residue of said Mr. Jenkins Land situate near Trapp at Powick's Ridge, 237 acres at 3 Dollars per acre

Talbot County  
Land Record  
24/13

Matthew Lewis Jenkins, planter

to

2/16/1790

Joseph Ridgeway, planter

L300 "Powick's Ridge" and "Hawes Mannor"...whereon the said Matthew Lewis Jenkins now lives which lies next towards and nearest the place called the Trappe

1783 Federal Tax Assessment, Matthew Lewis Jenkins, Bolingbroke Hundred

Pt Powick's Ridge, 121 acres, thin sandy soil. 1 small framed dwelling house, 1 Log'd kitchen, 1 Log'd Meat House, 1 Log'd Corn House, mostly in very bad repair

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. T-134

Name White Marsh Farm  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 11

---

Talbot County  
Land Record  
20/285

Henry Jenkins, planter

to

3/16/1773

Matthew Jenkins, planter

L18.10 part of a tract of land called Poakhick's Ridge

18 acres

19/482

Richard Fairbrother, planter

to

2/1/1768

Matthew Jenkins

L250 155 acres "Suttons Grange"

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-134

Graham, John E. ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, 1976.  
*Ninth Census of the United States*, Talbot County Population Schedule, transcribed by Helen E. Seymour.  
*Seventh Census of the United States*, Talbot County Population Schedule, transcribed by Helen E. Seymour.  
Talbot County Land Records, Talbot County Courthouse.  
Talbot County Wills, Talbot County Courthouse.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property \_\_\_\_\_  
Acreage of historical setting \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name Trappe, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

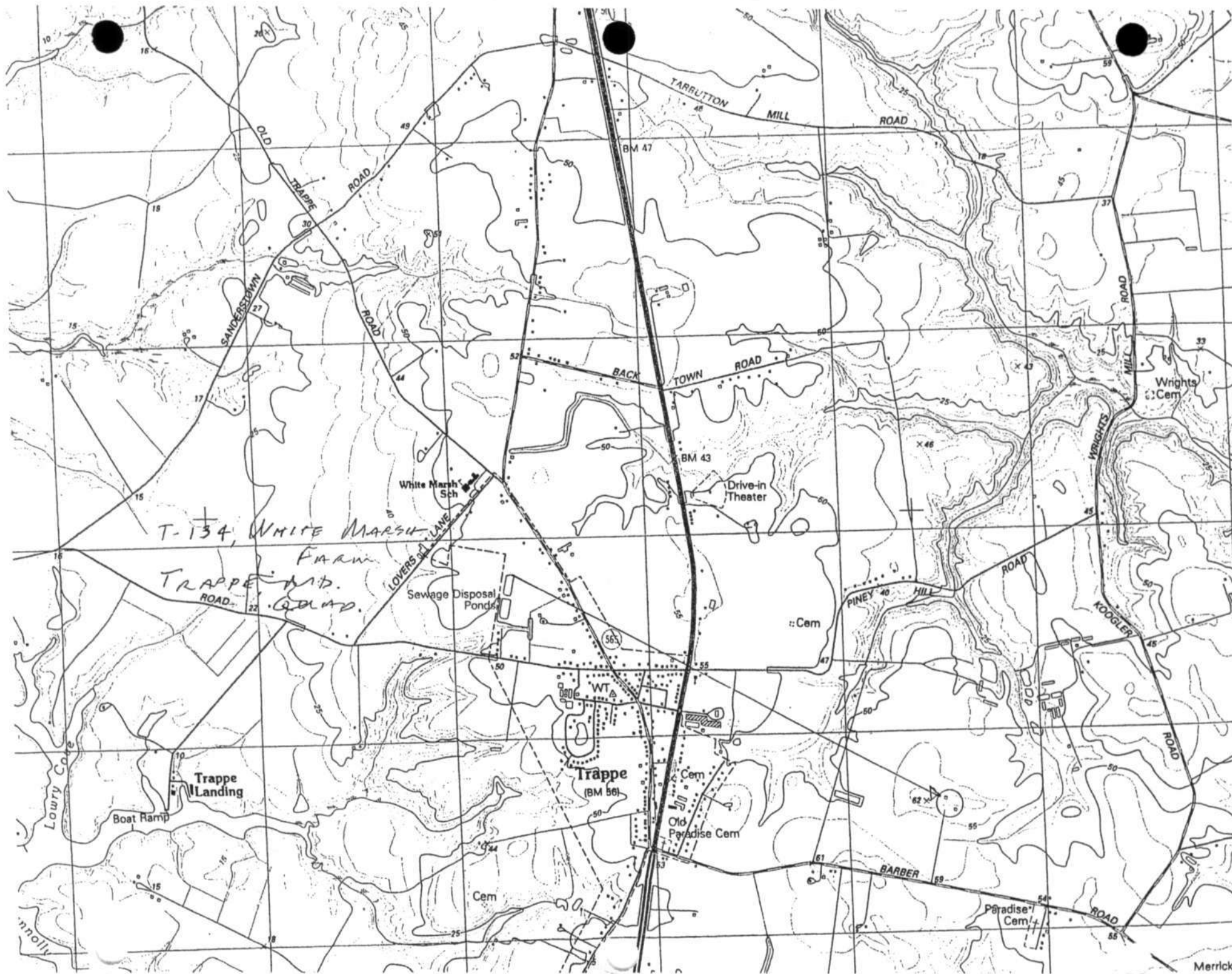
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	11/12/2002
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600





T-134

T-134



T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM (TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIL, TALBOT Co., MD

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TOWNSET, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEAR PAUL TOWNSET

1 OF 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM (TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIL, TALBOT Co., MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

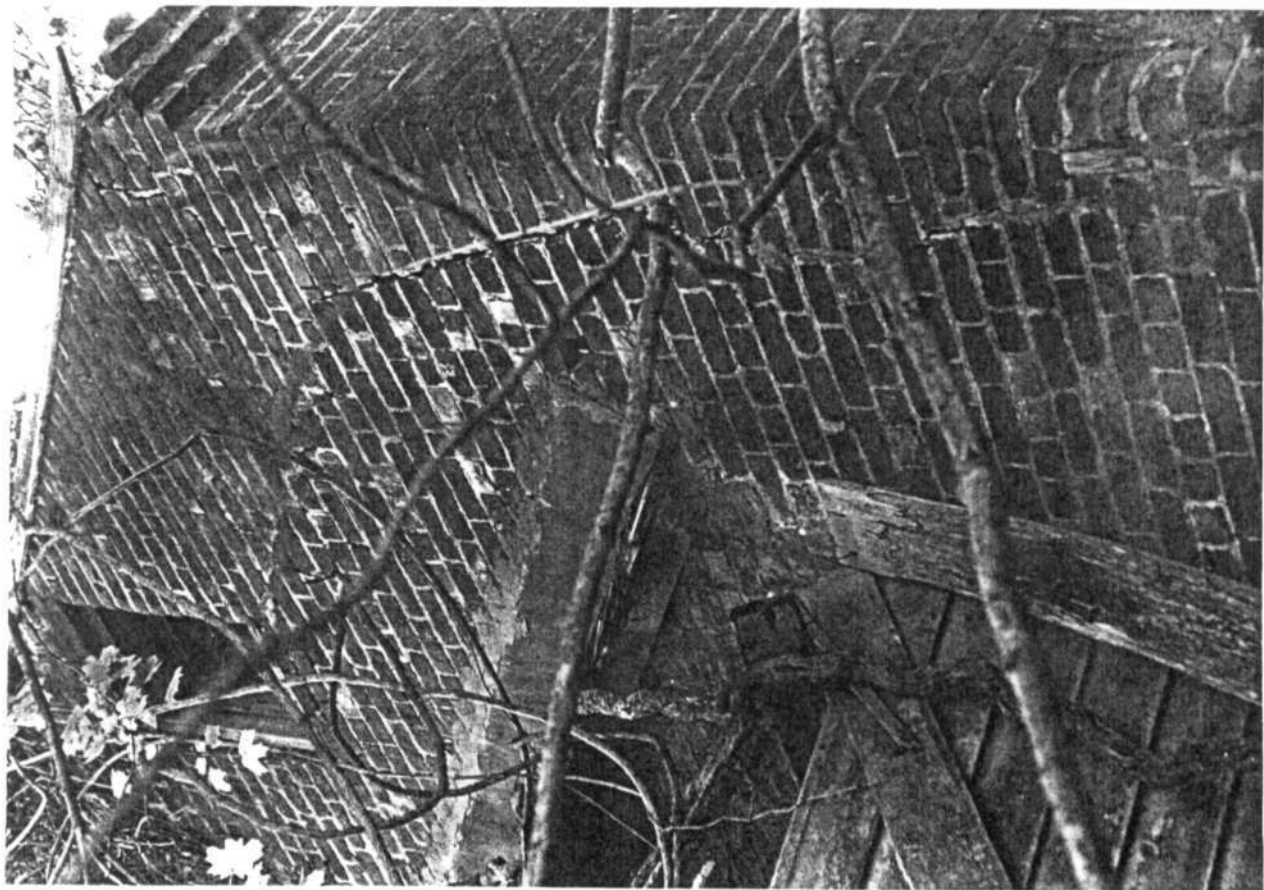
11/02, PAUL TOWNSET, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEAR PAUL TOWNSET

2 OF 15



T-134



T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM (TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIC, TARRANT CO., MD.

SEGMENTAL ARCH - SOUTH ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / PAUL TARRANT

3 or 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM

(TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIC, TARRANT CO., MD.

SEGMENTAL ARCH -

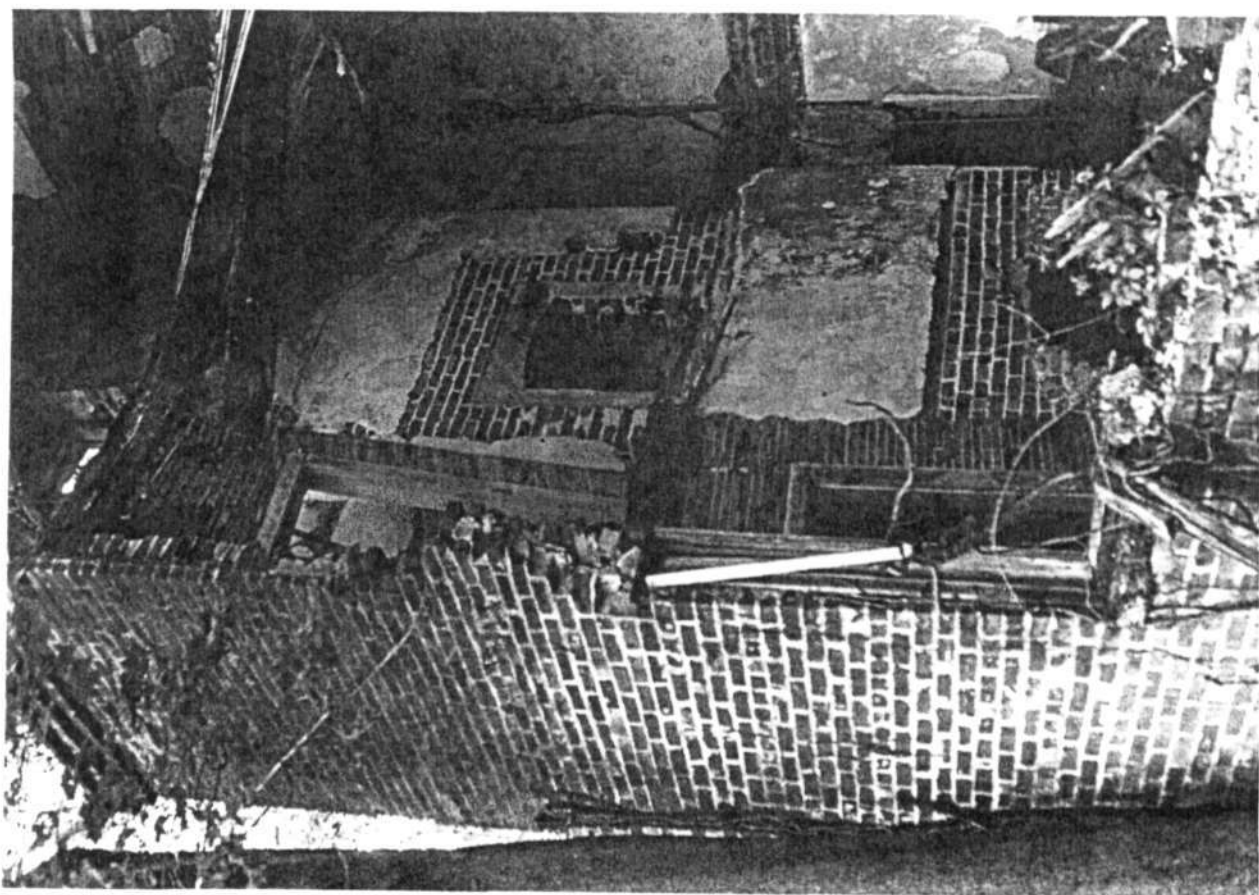
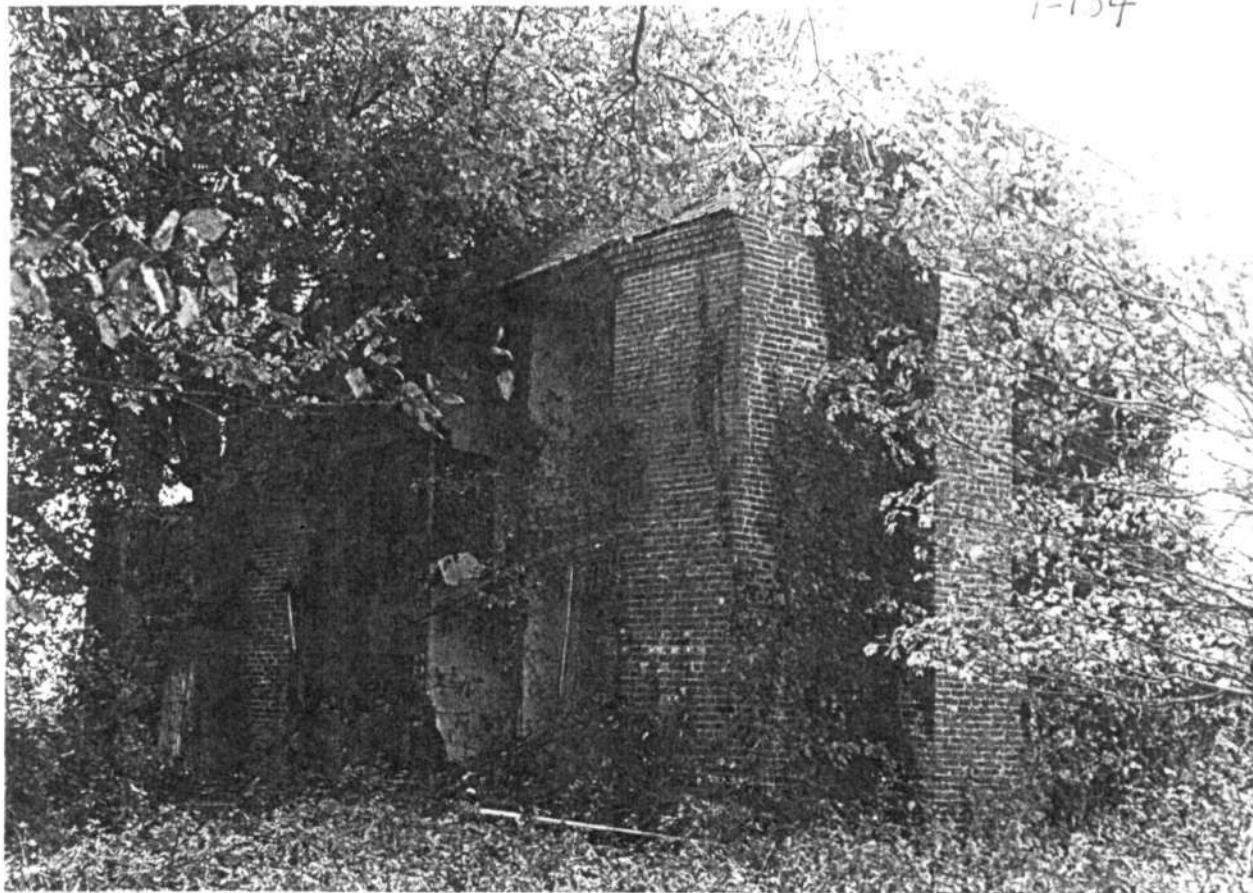
11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTO.

NEG. / PAUL TARRANT

4 or 15



F-134



T-134

WHITE MASSIE FARM (TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VICINITY, TARBUT CO., MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TOWNST, PITTSBURGH

NEZ. / PAUL TOWNST

5 OF 15

T-134

WHITE MASSIE FARM

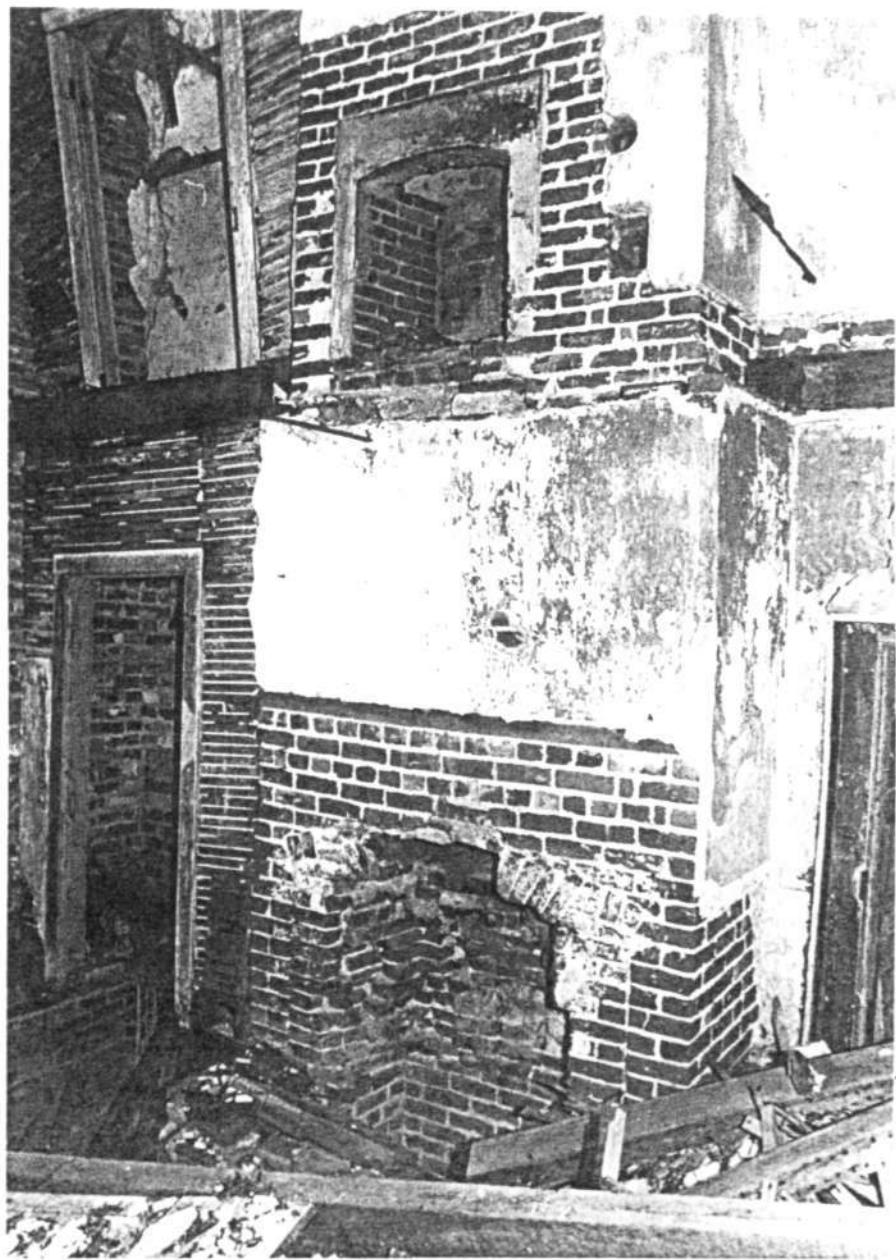
(TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIC., TARBUT CO., MD.

INTERIOR VIEW OF EAST END  
STONE TOWNST COUNSEED  
WALL

11/02, PAUL TOWNST, PITTSB.  
NEZ. / PAUL TOWNST

6 OF 15



T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM

(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIC., TARRANT Co., MD.

EAST END STICK

11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTO.

NEG / PAUL TARRANT

7 OF 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM

(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIC., TARRANT Co., MD.

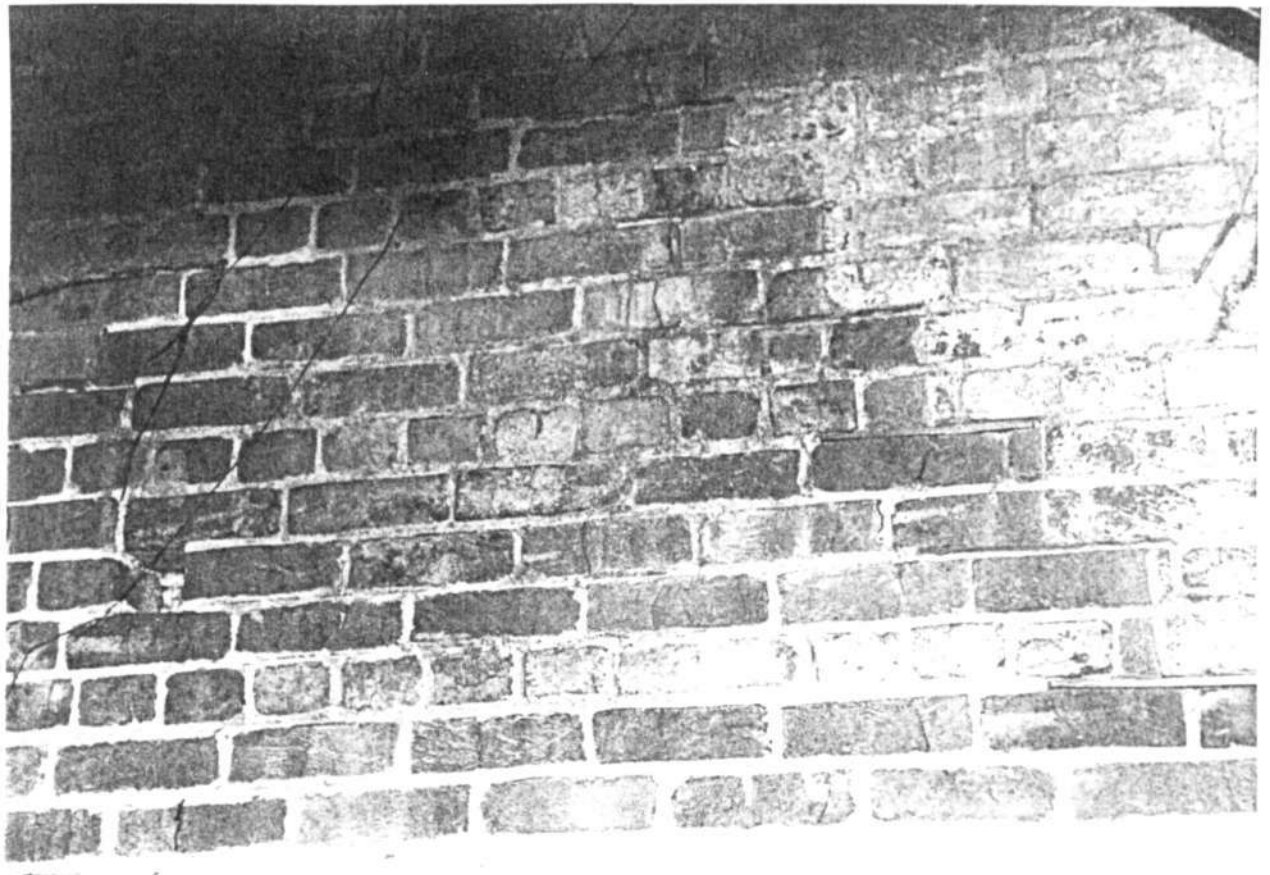
11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTO.

NEG / PAUL TARRANT

8 OF 15



T-134





T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM  
(TOP MARK FARM)

EAST GABLE END SITTING R V LINE  
OF PREVIOUS WING

11/12, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHED

NEG. / PAUL TOWART

9 OF 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM (TOP MARK FARM)

TRAFFIC VIC., TALBOT CO., MD.

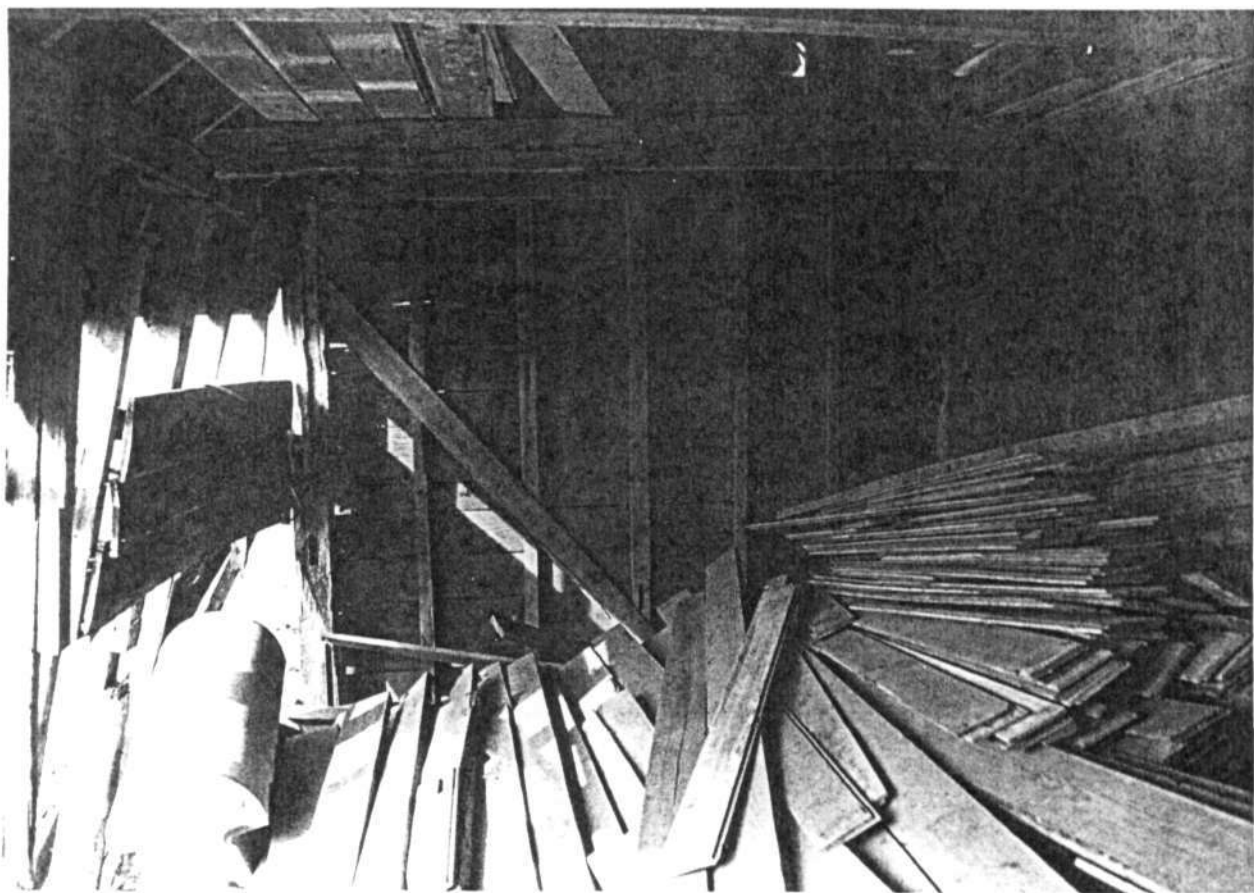
PAWN - SOUTHEAST. ELEVATION

11/12, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHED

NEG. / PAUL TOWART

10 OF 15

T-134



T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM  
(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIC., TALBOT CO., MD.

PAWN - SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TONART, PHOTO.

NEG. / PAUL TONART

11 OK 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM  
(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIC., TALBOT CO., MD.

PAWN - INTERIOR FRAMING

11/02, PAUL TONART, PHOTOGRAPH

NEG. / PAUL TONART

12 OK 15

T-134



T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM

(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIL., TARRANT C., MD.

OUTBUILDING - SOUTH ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / PAUL TARRANT

13 OF 15

T-134

WHITE MARSH FARM

(TOP MARSH FARM)

TRAPPE VIL., TARRANT C., MD.

GARAGE - SOUTH ELEVATION

11/02, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / PAUL TARRANT

14 OF 15



T-134





T-134

WHITE MAISON FARM

(TOP MARK FARM)

TRAPPE VIC, TARBOT 3., N.S.

OUTBUILDING - SOUTH ELEVATION

11/82, PAUL TOWNET, PHOTO

NEG. / PAUL TOWNET

15 OF 15

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Top Mark Farm

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Jamaica Point Road (Barber Road)

CITY, TOWN

Trappe

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trappe Canning Co.

Telephone #: 416-3185

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Trappe Frozen Foods Corp.

CITY, TOWN

Trappe

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21673

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE, Talbot County  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: 492

Folio #: 624

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

T-134

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Top Mark Farm was an interesting structure prior to its being allowed to fall into ruin. It is composed of a two story brick part with a two story frame part. Behind (north) of the latter part is a one story hyphen and another two story section. The frame sections of the building appear to have been constructed around the turn of this century.

The brick portion of the building is laid in Common bond and lacks both water table and belt course. On the west gable is a brick chimney which is not part of the original structure.

Both sides are identical, with two windows, and a door with small porch on the first floor and three windows above. There is a corbeled brick cornice. The windows originally had 6/6 sash and louvered shutters.

The interior is divided into small stair hall with room on each side. The trim is very plain. An interesting ladder exists to the attic which is a finished room.

On closer examination it was found that the brickwork on the front and back of the house is different above the second floor level. On the gables the outline of a gambrel roof is discernible. On the inside the west wall has several broken bricks visible where the original interior chimney was removed to make the room larger during the major remodeling.

The original floor plan was probably "hall and parlor" with the west side being the hall.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is an interesting vernacular structure, both originally and the way it was enlarged and remodeled.

It is of interest because it is a late example of the use of the gambrel roof, having been built around 1810 and it is of interest because it did not remain in that form very long for the corbeled cornice is usually associated with buildings of the 1820's and 1830's.

T-134

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	
<u>Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant</u>	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>Maryland Historical Trust</u>	<u>Jan. 20, 1976</u>
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
<u>Shaw House, 21 State Circle</u>	<u>(301) 267-1438</u>
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
<u>Annapolis</u>	<u>Maryland 21401</u>

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



# TRAPPE

Dist. No 3

TALBOT CO.

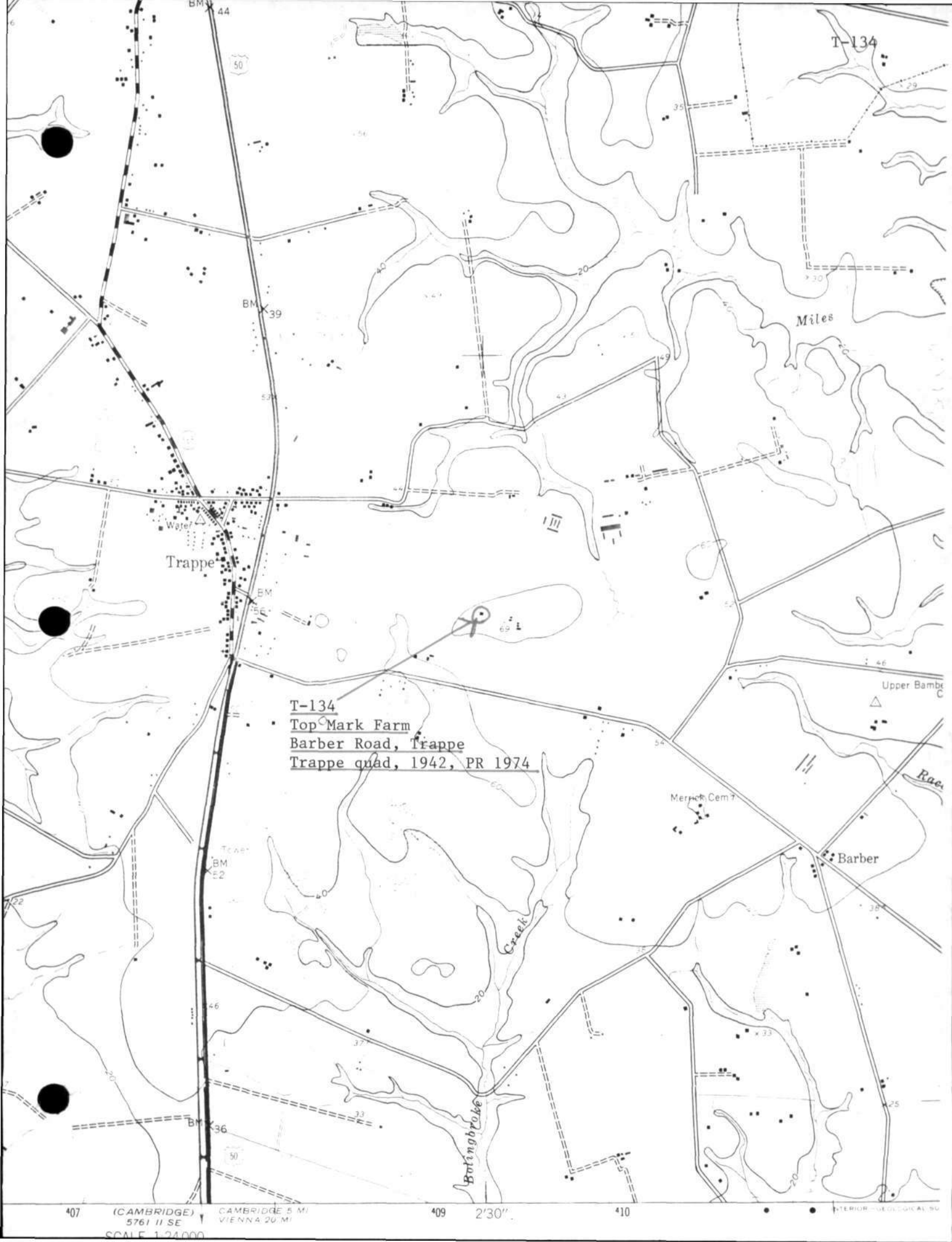
Lake, Griffing & Stevens

1877 ATLAS

T-134









12x1.53

75% 134

T- 134



M. Bourne

1/76





T-134

Top Mark

Ed Jones

8/1975

Neg-MHT